



Linn County Routes

Linn County Secondary Road Department

Spring 2021

319-892-6400
1888 County Home Road
Marion, IA 52302
LinnCounty.org

Spring Thaw & Road Maintenance

Spring Thaw & Rock Roads

After logging nearly 2,400 hours of overtime clearing snow and ice from Linn County secondary roads, crews are preparing for the spring thaw. As temperatures warm and spring arrives, the 765+ miles of rock surfaced roads in Linn County will be affected by the thaw. There are many factors that lead to the overall condition of rock surfaced roads such as:

- Depth of frost
- Soil and aggregate types
- Exposure to heavy vehicle loads
- Drainage

The most important factor for providing a successful rock surfaced road is drainage. Re-establishing and maintaining crown or slope on a rock road is the focal point of attention for our motor grader operators throughout the year and especially in the spring.



As the spring thaw progresses, crews will be blade and repair roads with construction equipment as the roads system allows access. Roads will be prioritized based on the magnitude of the damage. Common repairs include:

- Blading
- Spot rocking
- Coring out and adding larger aggregate

5-Year Plan

Each year, per Iowa code, the Linn County Secondary Road Department presents to the Board of Supervisors their updated 5-year plan laying out the projects and maintenance to take place in the years to come to for the improvement of the County's secondary road infrastructure. Highlights of the plan include:

- Focusing on repairing and rebuilding bridges rated as poor
- Maintaining the condition of the paved road network
- Improving the condition of the 765+ mile rock road network
 - Place a 1-4 inch overlay on 10% of mileage each year
 - Add calcium chloride added to increase stabilization
- Performing preventative maintenance
 - Crack sealing, patching, joint resealing, grinding

Find more information and view the full presentations at LinnCounty.org/Engineer.

Road Closure Map

To see a map of current road closures and restrictions, please visit LinnCounty.org/Engineer and select Road Closures & Restrictions.

From this webpage, you can subscribe to receive closure notifications for Linn County and other counties. **Be aware that not all counties use this notification system.**

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Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency — Page 9-12

2021 Construction and Maintenance Projects

The following projects are scheduled to be completed by contract and County crews in 2021. Rock overlay projects consist of placing rock on sections of roadway that have drainage, crown, and meet standards for a Class A road. Owners are responsible for the entrance from their property to the county road. We will work with owners to use existing drives or to improve drives to fit current needs. The property owner pays for any needed culvert and the County places the culvert and provides any required fill. This is an opportunity to locate and widen drives for modern farm equipment. Rock needed for the drive is the owner’s responsibility as well, but it may be purchased through Linn County during the project for \$15 per ton (minimum 10 tons). Lin County will work with owners to blend the project to their land through encroachment agreements—the temporary use of a portion of their property.

2021 rock projects will come with a calcium chloride application for stability. The chloride will help stabilize the rock and lessen the rock loss due to traffic. With rock prices continuing to increase, we are looking at ways to decrease the quantity of rock needed without sacrificing the quality of the rock road system.

District 4—Northwest

Rock Overlays (portions of)

- Aldrich Rd
- Burbridge Ln, C Ave Ext, Old Center Rd, Zook Rd
- Deal Rd, Iowa Rd, Schultz Rd
- Seven Hills Rd

Bridge Replacement

- Burnett Station Rd (over Indian Creek)
- Austin Rd (over East Indian Creek)

District 1—Southwest

Rock Overlays (portions of)

- Arabian Rd
- Cummings Ford Rd, Boar Rd
- Linn-Benton Rd
- Lone Tree Rd
- Morgan Valley Rd, Stallman Rd, Scotch Grove Ln, W Cemetery Rd
- Standlea Rd

Entrances

- County Home Rd (west of Hwy 13)

Roundabout

- County Home Rd (C Ave Ext)

Concrete Paving

- County Home Rd (N Center Point Rd to C Ave Ext)
- Shellsburg Rd (Benton County to City of Palo)
- Blairs Ferry Rd (City of Palo to Cedar River)
- Palo March Rd (City of Palo to Bear Creek)

District 3—Northeast

Rock Overlays (portions of)

- Game Club Rd
- Heatons Valley Rd, Jordans Grove Rd
- Hindman Rd
- Indian Creek Way
- Bunker Hill Rd, Rowley Rd, Scotland Rd
- Stone Rd
- Whittier Rd

District 2—Southeast

Rock Overlays (portions of)

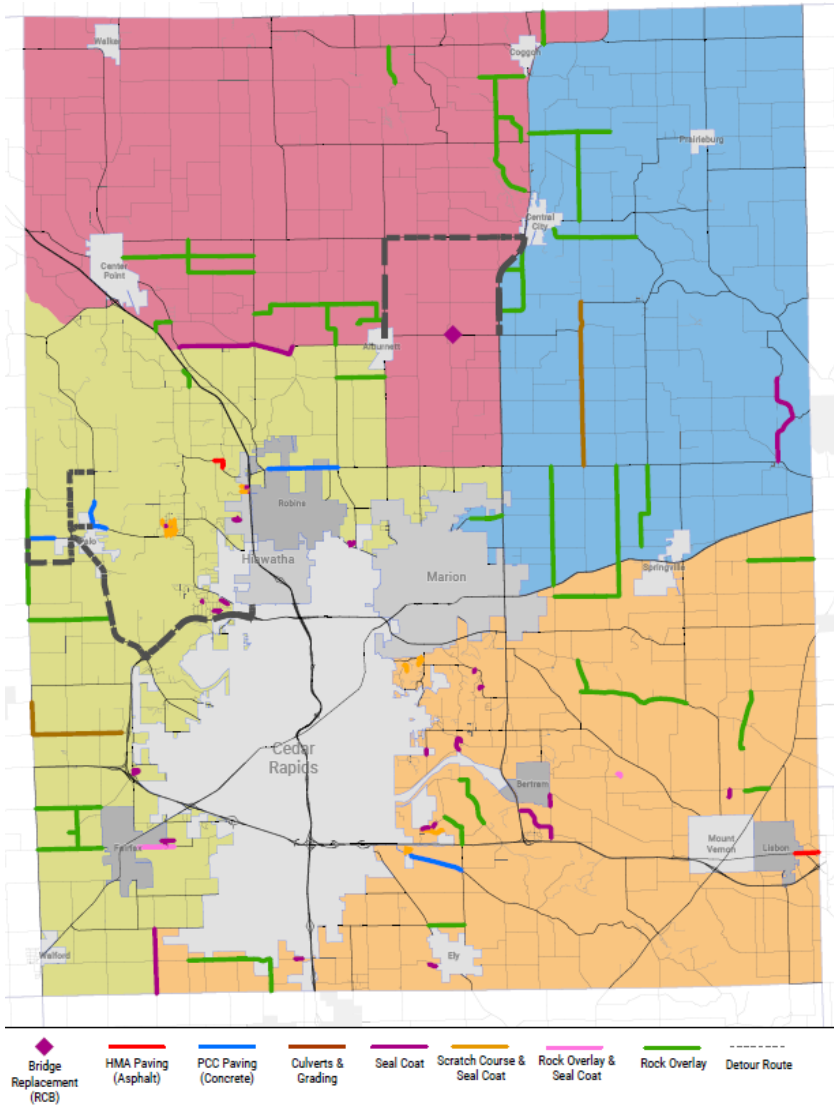
- 18th St, Walford Rd
- Abbe Hills Rd, Linn Grove Rd
- Gracey Rd
- Honey Grove Rd, Old River Rd
- Linn Ridge Rd, Red Haw Rd
- Mabie Rd
- Marion Airport Rd, Stone Rd

Concrete Paving

- Ivanhoe Rd (City of Cedar Rapids to Jappa Rd)

Asphalt Paving

- Business 30 (City of Lisbon to Cedar County)

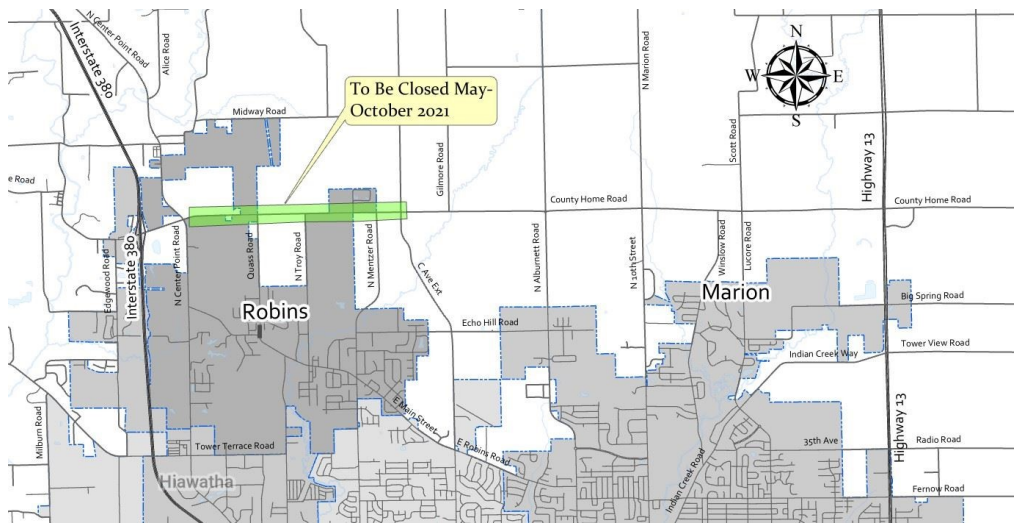


Projects may change depending on budget, need, material availability, and weather.

For an interactive project map with additional information:
<https://gis.linncounty.org/webapps/Engineering/RoadProjects/>

County Home Road Improvement Project

Construction will resume this spring on County Home Road from N Center Point Road to the C Avenue Extension, as crews work to complete the second half of the improvement project. A roundabout will be constructed at the intersection of C Ave Ext and County Home Road. The project is expected to be completed by October 2021. Stay up to date on the project by signing up for notifications at [LinnCounty.org/NotifyMe](https://linncounty.org/NotifyMe).



Roadside Update

The Linn County Secondary Road Roadside staff are gearing up for the busy summer months. Each year, staff perform work including hydroseeding, herbicide applications, tree and brush removal, and spot mowing as part of the 1,000 Mile pilot project in partnership with the Monarch Research Project along Linn County’s secondary roads.

The 1,000 Mile Pilot project goal is to convert 1,000 miles of roadside rights-of-way to pollinator habitat by 2022 by planting 75,000 mini-prairies in secondary roadside ditches throughout rural Linn County.



Get Notified

Sign up to receive updates on construction projects straight to your phone or inbox!

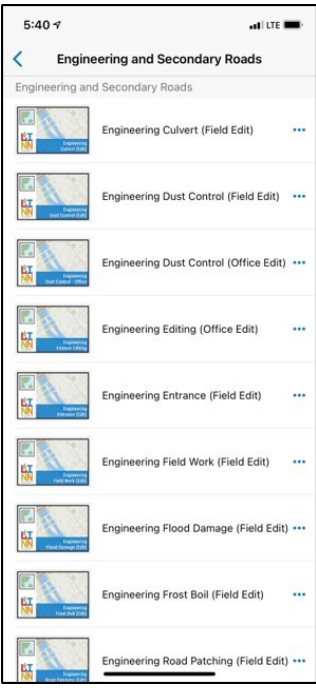
Go to [LinnCounty.org/NotifyMe](https://linncounty.org/NotifyMe) and scroll down to the Alert Center.

- Subscribe to Construction Project Updates for general information.
- Subscribe to individual projects to receive detailed information on road closures and construction progress.

Technology at Work

The Linn County Secondary Road Department has been expanding its use of technology in the field to help streamline service, maintenance, and construction projects. In partnership with the Linn County GIS Department, staff has developed multiple apps to improve efficiency and effectiveness for tasks including:

- Disaster response and recovery (floods, derechos, frost boils)
- Asset tracking (signs, culverts)
- Roadside activities (spraying, burning, planting)
- Maintenance activities (tree removal, drainage issues)



Dust Control

Individuals having dust control applied to county roads adjacent their property must obtain a permit through the Linn County Engineer's Office. Dust control may be applied by Linn County, a private contractor, or the property owner. Sign up by calling our office at 319-892-6400 or visit LinnCounty.org/Engineer. On the website you may print the form, fill it out and mail it to our office with a check made payable to Linn County Treasurer. Checks must be received by the Road Department prior to the end of the sign up period.

Types of Dust Control Available through County

There are options for dust control on County rock roads. The County offers calcium chloride, oil, and seal coat. Dust control must be applied to a minimum of 150 feet of road with additional length in 50 foot increments. Private contractors offer additional products. Please note that no product will produce a completely dust free experience.

Chloride—\$0.75 per foot per application

Calcium chloride is a liquid salt solution sprayed directly to the rock surface. Calcium chloride draws water from the air thus maintaining some effectiveness in dry weather. It is water soluble. Two applications per year are recommended. *Pictured right.*

MC-70(Oil)—\$3.00 per foot

Asphalt cut back is placed on the rock surface and a light layer of rock or sand is applied to help cover liquid until it hardens. A permit for oil is for a single application that may last a full season or more if maintained well by the owner. Owners planning to seal coat must have intact oil or apply oil as a tack coat prior to seal coat application. *Pictured right.*

Seal Coat—\$3.50 per foot (over existing oil or seal coat)

A seal coat is thicker cut back and rock chips placed on a prepared base. Seal coat requires MC-70(oil) to be placed as a tack coat. Surface becomes dust free over time with rain and traffic. *Pictured right.*

Preserving Seal Coat and Oil

If your dust control is well maintained, you may be able to get another season out of the application. If you want your seal coat or oil inspected, you need to apply for a retain permit. This permit **does not guarantee** that your surface will be preserved. Please have your dust control reviewed early enough to allow you to sign up for a new application if it cannot be preserved.

The **permit cost is \$50** and is **non-refundable**. Property owners with an approved permit for the calendar year may obtain up to one ton of cold mix asphalt to patch their road section. Seal coat and oil sections will be torn up only when the County views them as a traffic problem. No notification by Linn County is required prior to returning road to a rock surface.

Dust Control Sign Up

First Sign Up Period: April 1 - May 10

- First Application of Calcium Chloride
- Application of Oil (MC-70) or Seal Coat
- Application by Private Contractor - **Permit Cost \$50**

Second Sign Up Period: June 1 - July 10

- Second Application of Calcium Chloride
- Application by Private Contractor - **Permit Cost \$50**



Private Contractors

Private contractors offer various materials that are approved to be applied to Linn County roads. The approved materials are calcium chloride, magnesium chloride, lignin, soy oil, MC-70, and seal coat. If you choose to hire a private contractor, you must still obtain a private permit. **The permit fee is \$50** and may be applied for at the County Engineer's office or downloaded from our website, completed and mailed in to our office with a check made payable to the Linn County Treasurer.

Embargo

Spring thaw along with spring rains can cause the roads to be soft and easily damaged by heavy loads and traffic. Linn County restricts, by resolution, vehicles operating on secondary roads to protect the road from damage or destruction for up to 90 days.



Those who need to use the road and are above the embargo weight limit can obtain an embargo permit from our department. This typically applies to school buses, garbage trucks, and construction deliveries.

- Permit fee – \$50
- Copy of Certificate of Liability Insurance with Linn County as additional insured must be provided.
- Permittee is responsible for any damage that may result to the road.

The embargo does not apply to county maintenance vehicles, emergency vehicles, or implements of husbandry.

Road Signage

Roads may be closed for construction, flooding, or maintenance to keep everyone safe or to allow materials to cure before traffic is allowed back on the road. Drivers not following the road closure signs are putting themselves and the workers in danger. Drivers who do not follow the road closed signs may be ticketed and invoiced for any damage caused to the road, in addition to any damages caused to their personal vehicle.

Road Closed vs Road Closed to Thru Traffic



- Signs are blocking traffic to keep vehicles out
- No traffic allowed in or out
- Impossible conditions within closure
- Signs still allow access by sitting on shoulder or by staggering
- Traffic allowed to locations with the closure
- Traffic not allowed to drive through without a destination within the closed road

Locations

Engineer's Office

1888 County Home Road, Marion 892-6400

Main Shop

1944 County Home Road, Marion 892-6400

District Shops

District #1

Morgan Creek Shop, 1206 Stoney Point Road NW, Cedar Rapids
Toddville Shop, 3170 Cora Mae Lane, Toddville

District #2

Mt. Vernon Shop, 788 Cedar River Rd, Mt Vernon
Walford Road Shop, 650 Walford Rd. SW

District #3

Drexler Shop, 4720 Drexler Rd, Central City
Whittier Shop, 721 County Home Road, Springville

District #4

Alice Shop, 3375 Central City Rd, Center Point

For additional contact information, visit our website at LinnCounty.org/Engineer and click on Staff Directory.

Sign Up for Reminders and Notifications

- News releases & announcements
- Dust control
- Newsletters
- Construction project updates & road closures
- Snow removal
- Calendar

Visit LinnCounty.org/NotifyMe to sign up.

Connect With Us on Social Media

Facebook: Linn County, IA

Twitter: @LinnCounty

LinkedIn: Linn County

Look for our Linn County neighborhood communications on NextDoor!



Download Our Mobile App!

The Linn County mobile app is available in the Google Play and Apple app stores. This app provides easy access to popular services, Linn County departments, road construction and closures, and much more.